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SOURCE Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 5, 1950.

MOLOTOV OBLAST PUBLIC-HEALTH OFFICIALS CENSURED

Facts and figures show that medical services for rural communities have, in fact, improved. There are more hospital beds. The disease rate has decreased, particularly in the ranks of metallurgical and petroleum industries employees.

But, the unification program is not progressing as it should. Only about 38 percent of the patients are able to see the same doctor twice. In some regions, particularly around Berezniki and Gubskha, only about 20 percent of the repeat cases are able to obtain appointments with their original doctor.

The program for improving medical aid for miners is lagging. Existing medical facilities are poor. Specialized aid has improved, but many patients are still handled only by hospital assistants. There is no official oblast hospital in Molotov Oblast.

Personnel administration is poor. In 1949, a total of 358 new doctors arrived at various posts in the oblast. Before the end of the year, 98 had left. Fifty-eight doctors, recent graduates, were sent to fill some of the vacancies. Is it any wonder that medical services are at a low level?

The reform-minded members of the Board, Ministry of Public Health RSFSR, spared no effort to determine the reason for poor performance of the Oblast Public-Health Department. It was decided that Sumbayev, director of the Molotov Medical Institute, is primarily responsible, and it was suggested that he should expedite action on Ministerial decrees and orders, and not persist in the practice of waiting 6 months to a year before complying.

In an attempt to enforce the Board's wishes for improved medical services in the oblast, the director of the Molotov Oblast Public-Health Department is ordered to submit a report of compliance with Decree No 870 of the Ministry of Public Health RSFSR by the end of the first quarter of 1950.

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